1. DATE - TIME GROUP 23 October 64	2. LOCATION Westford, Massachusetts
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION UNRELIABLE REPORT
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	Other: Unreliable Report. Witness regarded as unreliable by NICAP representative who submitted case to Air Force.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 3 Hours 5 Minutes	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS See Case File
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE NE	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes XX No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes XX No	

FTD FORM SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

Witnesses: Mrs. Evelyn Cherney
Barbara Cherney (Daughter, Age 12)

PLACE: Westford, Massachusetts TIME: 4:55-8:00 PM EDT

SIGHTING: (Interviewed by Subcommittee member, Mr. Peter Poulsen)

Mrs. Cherney and her daughter Barbara were in the family car on Old Lowell Road driving toward home when Barbara noticed the object coming South from Bedford. The car was stopped and they got out and watched it until it disappeared behind the tree tops. When they arrived home (house is located high on a hill over-looking miles of territory) the object was again spotted seemingly at tree-top level in the N.E. It alternately hovered and moved back and forth from N.W. to N.E. It was round, silver-blue in color, the apparent size of a silver dollar held at arm's length, had a "pinkish" light on the bottom, and, what appeared to be dark "port-holes" along its side. After it got dark, many lights were seen along its side and the pinkish light became "very red and pulsating". The object was sharply outlined in the twilight but became just a dark shape carrying lights as night set in. No sound was heard at any time. At around 8:00 PM the object, identified by its red light, moved straight up very slowly for approximately 2000 feet and then accelerated up and out-of-sight in 1-2 seconds. It was last seen as a point of light moving against a background of stars.

EVALUATION:

Mrs. Cherney and her neighbors have had a lion's share of UFO sightings. I have never met her although I heard her phone in her account of the October 1960 sighting on a local Radio Show. She was willing to relate her sighting to a local UFO Group on November 17th but weather prevented her from coming. I sent both Subcommittee members Mr. Donald Meyers, and Advanced Research Engineer and Mr. Peter Poulsen, a specialist in Radiation Physics to interview her on these and other sighsings. The following are brief statements concerning Mrs. Cherney by them.

Mr. Meyers - "Mrs. Cherney is a very volu ble woman who sincerely believes that she is seeing objects from outer space. If it were just her alone, I would discount the stories she tells, but she is not alone in seeing the objects" (Mr. Meyers has interviewed other witnesses who give support to Mrs. Cherney's sightings).

Mr. Poulsen - "Mrs. Cherney and her neighbor, Mrs. Barrah, see UFOs every other night. I responded to a call Tuesday, December 15, 1964. The call was from Mrs. Cherney's housekeeper informing me of UFO activity outside the Cherney residence. I arrived less than ten minutes later with an observer whom I had watching the sky as I drove. The observer saw nothing unusual anywhere in the sky on our trip over to the sighting. Mrs. Cherney and two Barrah boys informed me that the object left just as I pulled up. The altitude and azimuth and description of the object was such that my observer could not have missed it."

I personally received a seven page letter recently from Mrs. Cherney. In it she describes these three sightings in detail. I checked her sighting accounts in this letter with the NICAP Questionnaire she had filled out; the newspaper account; and, notes made by the Subcommittee members who had interviewed her. Details in the sighting times differed slightly. Dates of these sightings were at variance with each other. For example: REPORT #1 - NICAP Questionnaire = October 6, 1959; Newspaper account = October, 1960; Her letter = October 10, 1960. - REPORT #2 - NICAP Questionnaire = September 6, 1964; Newspaper account = September 15, 1964; Her letter = September 8, 1964; and, Mr. Moyer's initial notes = September 8, 1964. However, other details of these sightings when cross-checked are accurate. Mr. Meyers, who cross-examined other witnesses, found that their sighting accounts were substantially the same. Description of the UFOs sighted are those characteristic of UFOs. However, any person who has read widely in UFO literature would know what UFOs look like. (In checking back through my UFO correspondence files I found that Mrs. Adele Darrah was one of "Contactee" Daniel Fry's sponsors on a recent speaking tour which stopped at [illegible] Westford for the night of November 11, 1964. To back such a man as Daniel Fry, in my estimation, tends to discredit her as a serious observer although, of course, she may be an excellent observer.)

I hesitated even sending in these reports but there seems to be a possible authenticity to them when examined overally, so felt it might be worthwhile. If they are authentic, they are important both because of the close-up views and because of their concentration in this area. Mrs. Cherney's home is situated on a hill located just opposite a very important hill - "Millstone Hill". Constructed on this hill is one of the most powerful radar installations in the United States. The antenna is parabolic with a diameter of 84 feet. Its use is largely Air Force sponsored and it has been used both for Astronomical work and in the developing of early-warning defense Radars. Astronomical experiments, including attempts to obtain radar echos from Venus and other planets were initiated in February of 1958. As Mr. Meyers has aptly pointed out - If UFOs are instrumented and/or manned probes, "Millstone Hill" would be one of the very interesting areas of technical interest, especially with its powerful radiation source, which would attract them.

We are instructing Mrs. Cherney to record exact times, dates, etc. for any future sightings; encouraging her to report them immediately to Mr. Meyers and/or Mr. Poulsen who are only minutes away by car; and to attempt to take photographs of the alleged objects she has been privileged to see from time to time.

In view of the presence of variables and because of the sensational nature of these reports, no definite conclusion regarding them will be made at this time. We will continue to keep an open eye and an open mind toward Westford.

Respectfully Submitted

Raymond E. Fowler

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Chairman: Mass. NICAP Subcommittee

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UFO SIGHTING SUMMARY SHEET

REPORT # 1 - UFO REPORT - 10/8/60 (on or about)

Witness: Mrs. Evelyn L. Cherney (and son, Steven, then age 8)
2 Griffen Road
Westford, Massachusetts

Education: 10th Grade, High School
Occupation: Housewife

PLACE: Westford, Massachusetts

DATE: October 8, 1960 (on or about) TIME: 7:00 PM EDT (approx.)

SIGHTING:

(In Mrs. Cherney's own words) - "As my son and myself came N.E. on Concord Road (we came upon)...a clearing on the right hand side of the road. We knew that only an older couple lived there and though they have many chicken houses at the rear of their home, they were out of business. As my son Steve and myself approached the clearing and saw the house lit up at one end, we knew they were there and that all was well. Above the house (at the right end) were many lights. A very large circular object seemed to hover there. I had seen this same one in April of 1960 but only for seconds as it left straight up at that time. I told no one of the first sighting, hardly believing it myself...(My first contact about UFO came from a sister who lived several years in Washington state. A major in the Air Force told us of sightings over Panama in 1947.)..Steve and I sat in the car, which I had stopped, with knees shaking. I asked if we dared to get out and walk around. We decided to get out of the car. Steve took the flashlight as it was just after sundown and darkness was coming on. We got out, walked under the UFO. It was very large - I would say about 80 to 100 feet across. It had 8 picture windows in a row across the bottom.(behind these).was a very bright light which did not penetrate the surface of the ship. It wasn't any higher than an Elm tree, about 150 feet. As Steve put the beam of the flashlight on its surface, it was a very beautiful dark blue satin finish. We stood under it several minutes. Many lights came on at its outer rim. Blue-White lights. It started moving in a circular motion and moved out to the N.W. at a very fast speed, went up, and was gone. In all I would say we spent some 22 minutes there. We returned to the car and before I started it up my knees were no longer shaking. I didn't realize until this time that we were not afraid once we made the decision to leave the car. A very very strange but nice feeling of which we both had felt. I have filled out a form on this sighting but want you to understand we have no fears. With a sighting that close and that long, if anyone meant any harm it could have well been done in that length of time. My personal interest in all of this is a contact. That I want more than anything. We have had many good sightings since, of which I have filled out reports from the past to the best of my knowledge."

Additional information concerning this alleged sighting is as follows: The weather was clear. No sound was heard except a slight "whirring" sound as it moved away. The object was sharply outlined and its apparent size was compared with a 14" platter held at arm's length.

NICAP Massachusetts Subcommittee
13 Friend Court,
Wenham, Massachusetts

SUBJECT: UFO Reports

CONTENTS: Summer 1958 or 1959 UFO Sighting, Turner, Maine
October 8, 1960 UFO Sighting, Westford, Massachusetts
September 6, 1964 " " "
October 23, 1964 " " "
November 13, 1964 UFO Sighting, Shutesbury, Massachusetts
Assorted Newclips on UFO Sightings

FROM: Raymond E. Fowler
Chairman: NICAP Massachusetts Investigating Subcommittee

TO: National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena
Washington, D.C.

cc. USAF (AFSC, FTD)
Walter Webb

The following UFO Data is submitted for NICAP's files.

Raymond E. Fowler
Raymond E. Fowler
NICAP Investigator

REF/ref